IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 11, 15, and 31, to read as follows.

1. (Amended) A method for routing direct-dialed voice-band calls over an Internet protocol (IP) network, comprising:

receiving a direct-dialed voice-band call from a calling party telephone number, the direct-dialed voice-band call being associated with a destination number; and

automatically routing the direct-dialed voice-band call to be routed to the destination number as a voice-over-Internet protocol (VOIP) telephone call if the calling party telephone number was previously automatically registered for a VOIP service and if the destination number of the direct-dialed telephone call is accessible by the VOIP service.

11. (Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions adapted to be executed by a processor, the instructions which, when executed, define a series of steps to route direct-dialed voice-band calls over an Internet protocol (IP) network, said steps comprising:

receiving a direct-dialed voice-band call from a calling party telephone number, the direct-dialed voice-band call being associated with a destination number; and

automatically routing the direct-dialed voice-band call to the destination number as a voice-over-Internet protocol (VOIP) telephone call if the calling party telephone number was previously automatically registered for a VOIP service and if the destination number of the direct-dialed telephone call is accessible by the VOIP service.

15. (Amended) A method for automatically provisioning and maintaining a network system for routing direct-dialed voice-band calls from a calling party telephone number over an Internet protocol (IP) network comprising:

receiving a voice-over-Internet protocol (VOIP) service registration for the calling party telephone number;

automatically generating at least one order record for the calling party telephone number's VOIP service;

storing the at least one order record for the calling party telephone number's VOIP service;

managing the billing interaction for a billed account between at least one calling party telephone number and a billed telephone number;

synchronizing changes made to the stored at least one order record for the calling party telephone number's VOIP service, between the network system and a billing system, due to calling party activations, disconnections and changes; and

processing at least one call detail record including at least a terminating access identification (ID).

31. (Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions adapted to be executed by a processor, the instructions which, when executed, define a series of steps to automatically provision and maintain a network system for routing direct-dialed voice-band calls from a calling party telephone number over an Internet protocol (IP) network, said steps comprising:

receiving a voice-over-Internet protocol (VOIP) service registration for the calling party telephone number;

automatically generating at least one order record for the calling party telephone number's VOIP service;

storing the at least one order record for the calling party telephone number's VOIP service;

managing the billing interaction for a billed account between at least one calling party telephone number and a billed telephone number;

synchronizing changes made to the stored at least one order record for the calling party telephone number's VOIP service, between the network system and a billing system, due to calling party activations, disconnections and changes; and

processing at least one call detail record including at least a terminating access identification (ID).

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